NORTH CHESHIRE
JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Allergy Safety Policy

Last updated: September 2026

Person responsible for this policy & it's implementation	Michael Woolf
Review Frequency	Annually
Date approved	September 2026
Date of next review	September 2027
Links with other policies	• Safeguarding and Child Protection • Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions / Medication • Behaviour and Restorative Practice • Anti-Bullying • Health and Safety • Educational Visits • Equality and Inclusion • First Aid

1. Purpose

North Cheshire Jewish Primary School (NCJPS) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for pupils, staff and visitors affected by allergies.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- minimise the risk of exposure to known allergens;
- ensure that pupils with allergies can participate fully in school life;
- ensure staff understand how to recognise an allergic reaction;
- ensure appropriate emergency arrangements are in place for anaphylaxis;
- ensure prescribed adrenaline devices are readily accessible;
- provide clear arrangements for Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs), risk assessments, information sharing and emergency medication;
- support the wellbeing of pupils with allergies and prevent allergy-related bullying or discrimination.

NCJPS recognises that allergies can be serious and, in some circumstances, life-threatening. Effective prevention, preparation and rapid emergency treatment are therefore essential.

2. Statutory and Legal Context

This policy has been developed with regard to the statutory requirements introduced by **Section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026**, together with the Department for Education's **Allergy Safety in Schools** guidance.

NCJPS will also have regard to relevant duties and legislation, including:

- the Children Act 1989;
- the Education Act 2002 and associated safeguarding duties;
- the Equality Act 2010;
- the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974;
- the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice;
- the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework; and
- relevant food allergen and medicines legislation.

NCJPS will review this policy at least annually and following significant changes in guidance, legislation or local circumstances.

3. Identifying Pupils with Allergies

NCJPS will seek appropriate medical and allergy information from parents/carers as part of admission and throughout a pupil's time at school.

The school will maintain a confidential **Allergy Register** identifying pupils with known allergies and, where relevant:

- the allergen(s);
- the type and severity of the allergy;
- whether the pupil has prescribed adrenaline devices;
- whether an Allergy Action Plan is in place;
- whether an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) is required;
- relevant emergency medication and arrangements.

Parents/carers must inform the school promptly of:

- any new diagnosis;
- changes to an allergy;
- changes to medication or treatment;
- allergic reactions occurring outside school; or
- any advice from healthcare professionals that affects the pupil's management.

Allergy information will be shared with staff and other adults who need the information to keep the pupil safe, including relevant catering, lunchtime, wraparound, supply, cover, coaching and visiting staff.

Information will be shared securely and proportionately, respecting confidentiality and UK GDPR requirements.

Allergy information and relevant healthcare plans will be considered as part of transition between classes, settings and schools.

4. Individual Healthcare Plans and Allergy Action Plans

Where appropriate, NCJPS will work with parents/carers, pupils and relevant healthcare professionals to develop an **Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP)**.

An IHP will set out the individual arrangements required to enable the pupil to participate safely and fully in school life. This may include:

- known allergens and potential sources of exposure;
- symptoms and emergency procedures;
- medication and adrenaline arrangements;
- arrangements for lessons, PE, playtimes and lunchtimes;
- arrangements for trips and educational visits;

- arrangements for food and catering;
- responsibilities of staff and the pupil;
- arrangements for communication and information sharing.

Where a pupil has an Allergy Action Plan and/or relevant asthma plan, this should be kept with the IHP.

IHPs will be reviewed:

- at least annually where appropriate;
- when there is a significant change in the pupil's needs or treatment;
- following an allergic reaction or significant near miss; and
- when necessary following changes in staffing or school arrangements.

IHPs will be communicated to relevant staff, including supply and cover staff.

Where a pupil is awaiting diagnosis but requires active management, NCJPS will put appropriate interim arrangements in place rather than assuming that the pupil does not have an allergy.

5. Recognising an Allergic Reaction

All staff must be familiar with the signs and symptoms of allergic reactions.

Mild to moderate symptoms may include:

- hives or rash;
- itching or tingling in the mouth;
- swelling of the lips, face or eyes;
- stomach pain or vomiting;
- mild throat tightness;
- a sudden change in behaviour.

Staff should follow the pupil's individual Allergy Action Plan/IHP and administer prescribed medication as directed.

Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

Staff should be alert to **ABC symptoms**:

A – Airway

- swelling of the tongue or throat;
- tightness in the throat;
- hoarse voice;
- difficulty swallowing.

B – Breathing

- wheezing;
- difficulty breathing;
- noisy breathing;
- persistent coughing.

C – Circulation

- dizziness or feeling faint;
- sudden sleepiness or confusion;
- pale or clammy skin;
- collapse or loss of consciousness.

Anaphylaxis can occur without a skin rash.

If anaphylaxis is suspected, adrenaline must be administered without delay.

6. Emergency Response to Anaphylaxis

In the event of suspected anaphylaxis:

1. **Stay with the pupil and call for help.**
2. **Do not leave the pupil unattended.**
3. **Keep the pupil where they are. Do not make them stand or walk.**
4. **Lie the pupil flat with their legs raised.** If they are struggling to breathe, they may be propped up slightly, but should not be allowed to stand.
5. **Administer the prescribed adrenaline device immediately**, following the instructions for the device.
6. **Note the time adrenaline was administered.**
7. **Call 999 immediately** and state **"ANAPHYLAXIS"**.
8. If there is no improvement after approximately **5 minutes**, administer a second adrenaline device if available.
9. If the pupil has no signs of life, **commence CPR** and follow emergency-service instructions.
10. Contact parents/carers as soon as possible after emergency services have been called.
11. The pupil must be taken to hospital following anaphylaxis, even if they appear to have recovered.

Do not delay administration of adrenaline while waiting for an ambulance.

If a pupil has both a serious allergy and asthma and there is uncertainty about whether they are experiencing anaphylaxis or an asthma attack, adrenaline should be administered first in accordance with their medical plan and emergency guidance.

7. Prescribed Adrenaline Devices

Pupils prescribed adrenaline devices should have **two devices available and accessible at all times**, in accordance with their individual medical arrangements.

Adrenaline devices must be readily accessible during:

- lessons;
- break and lunchtime;
- PE and sporting activities;
- playground activities;
- educational visits and trips;
- breakfast and after-school provision; and
- other school activities.

Where a pupil is able and has been assessed as competent, they will be encouraged to take increasing responsibility for carrying and managing their own medication.

For pupils in EYFS, KS1 and LKS2, staff will ensure that prescribed adrenaline devices accompany pupils during relevant activities and movement around the school.

For pupils in UKS2, the school will work with the pupil and parents/carers to determine whether the pupil is competent and ready to carry their own devices.

The arrangements in an individual pupil's IHP will always take priority over a general age-based approach.

Adrenaline devices should be accessible within the time required for safe emergency treatment and should not be kept in locked locations where this would delay access.

8. Spare Emergency Adrenaline Devices

NCJPS holds spare adrenaline auto-injectors for use in emergency situations.

Spare devices:

- are **not a replacement** for a pupil's prescribed medication;
- may be used where a prescribed device is unavailable or has failed, in accordance with emergency procedures;
- may be used in an emergency to save life where an individual presents with suspected anaphylaxis, including where an allergy has not previously been diagnosed;
- will be stored securely but in an unlocked and immediately accessible location.

NCJPS spare AAI stock

Devices held:

- 2 × Jext 150 micrograms 0.15 mg (Junior) adrenaline auto-injectors
- 2 × Jext 300 micrograms 0.30 mg (Adult)adrenaline auto-injectors

Locations:

- Outside school office in Emergency Anaphylaxis Kit Bob

"Emergency Anaphylaxis Kit"

The School Business Manager will check spare devices monthly to ensure that:

- they are within their expiry date;
- the solution remains clear and is not cloudy or degraded;
- appropriate replacements are obtained before expiry.

Used devices will be disposed of appropriately in accordance with healthcare and waste-disposal procedures.

9. Minimising Risk and Exposure to Allergens

NCJPS recognises that any food can cause an allergic reaction and that risk management must be based on individual circumstances.

The school will not introduce blanket bans unless these are considered necessary following appropriate risk assessment and, where appropriate, medical advice.

Risk assessments will consider:

- food used in the curriculum;
- food brought into school by pupils, parents/carers or staff;
- food provided by the school or caterer;
- food preparation and cross-contamination;
- contact and airborne allergens;
- non-food allergens;
- animals and therapy dogs;
- educational visits and sporting activities;
- celebrations and special events.

Where an activity presents a significant risk, reasonable adaptations will be made to enable pupils with allergies to participate safely.

High standards of hygiene and cleaning will be maintained throughout the school.

10. Food, Catering and Curriculum Activities

NCJPS will work closely with its catering provider to minimise the risk of food allergen exposure.

The school will:

- ensure catering arrangements comply with relevant food allergen requirements;
- provide the catering team with up-to-date allergy information;
- ensure pupils with allergies can be appropriately identified at the point of service;
- use the school's established photo identification and colour-coded tray/plate systems;
- ensure food is appropriately labelled;
- take steps to prevent cross-contamination;
- ensure staff preparing or serving food understand how to identify allergens and read food labels;
- enable parents/carers to communicate with the catering team where appropriate.

These arrangements will also apply to school-led breakfast and after-school provision.

Where provision is delivered by a third party, NCJPS will ensure that the provider is aware of and follows the school's allergy safety requirements.

Food sharing

Pupils will be taught not to:

- share or trade food;
- share drinks;
- share utensils or food containers.

The reasons for these expectations will be explained in an age-appropriate way.

Curriculum

Cooking, science, art and other activities involving food or potential allergens will be risk assessed and adapted where necessary to minimise risk while maintaining inclusion.

Where food is brought into school for birthdays, celebrations or other purposes, parents/carers will be asked to seek the school's approval in advance so that appropriate arrangements can be made for pupils with allergies.

11. Non-Food Allergens

NCJPS will identify and manage risks associated with non-food allergens, including:

- insect stings;
- latex;
- medicines;
- animals and animal dander;
- other identified contact or airborne allergens.

Where pupils are affected by animal or pet dander, including in relation to therapy dogs, appropriate measures may include:

- limiting access to specific areas;
- enhanced cleaning;
- hand hygiene;
- avoiding unnecessary contact.

Individual arrangements will be reflected in the pupil's IHP and/or risk assessment where appropriate.

12. Educational Visits, Trips and Sporting Activities

Pupils with allergies will be included in trips, sporting events, residential visits and extracurricular activities wherever reasonably possible.

A risk assessment will consider:

- potential allergen exposure;
- emergency medication;
- access to adrenaline;
- transport arrangements;
- supervision;
- food and catering;
- access to emergency medical assistance;
- the location of the nearest appropriate emergency care.

Trip leaders will check that required medication, including adrenaline devices, is available before departure.

A pupil should not be placed in a situation where they are knowingly attending without their required emergency medication.

Where appropriate, the school will consider taking spare emergency adrenaline devices on the visit.

The trip leader will ensure that emergency medication remains accessible throughout the activity.

Where NCJPS participates in a sporting fixture or activity hosted by another organisation or school, relevant allergy information and emergency arrangements will be communicated in advance.

The presence of an allergy must not unnecessarily prevent a pupil from participating.

13. Staff Training and Induction

All staff who may supervise pupils will receive appropriate allergy awareness and emergency response training.

This includes, where relevant:

- teachers;
- teaching assistants and support staff;
- lunchtime supervisors;
- catering staff;
- wraparound-care staff;
- supply and cover staff;
- volunteers;
- sports coaches;
- music and other peripatetic staff;
- other regular visiting professionals.

Training will include:

- awareness of allergies and anaphylaxis;
- recognising symptoms;
- understanding individual risk and allergy management;
- preventing allergen exposure;
- locating emergency medication;
- using adrenaline trainer devices;
- responding to suspected anaphylaxis;
- calling 999;
- understanding the school's emergency procedures;
- reporting incidents and near misses;
- understanding IHPs and Allergy Action Plans;
- supporting pupils' wellbeing and inclusion.

Allergy awareness will form part of the induction of relevant new staff and temporary/visiting staff.

Staff will have opportunities to practise with adrenaline trainer devices at least annually and, where possible, more frequently.

NCJPS will undertake an annual practice of its anaphylaxis emergency response and review the effectiveness of the arrangements.

Key allergy safety procedures will also be revisited throughout the year.

14. Emergency Preparedness

Allergy safety arrangements will be considered as part of emergency planning.

During:

- fire drills;
- lockdown procedures;
- school evacuations;
- sporting activities;
- trips and visits;

the school will ensure that pupils' required emergency medication remains appropriately accessible.

Staff will know:

- how to identify pupils with allergies;
- where spare adrenaline devices are stored;
- how to access individual healthcare information;
- what to do in an emergency.

15. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- ensure that the school has an appropriate allergy safety policy;
- monitor the implementation of the policy;
- ensure allergy safety is appropriately considered within the school's wider risk management arrangements;
- review the policy as part of the school's governance arrangements.

Allergy Lead

The named Allergy Lead is **Michael Woolf, Headteacher**.

The Allergy Lead will:

- oversee implementation of this policy;
- maintain the school's Allergy Register;
- ensure appropriate IHPs are created and communicated;
- ensure allergy information is shared appropriately with catering and relevant staff;
- oversee arrangements for spare adrenaline devices;
- monitor staff training and induction;
- support staff in managing allergy-related risks;
- liaise with parents/carers and relevant health professionals;
- review incidents and near misses;
- provide relevant updates to governors;
- review the effectiveness of the policy annually.

All Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- understanding their role in allergy safety;
- knowing how to access allergy information;
- following relevant IHPs and risk assessments;
- recognising signs of allergic reactions;
- acting immediately in an emergency;
- ensuring pupils' medication is accessible;
- reducing avoidable exposure to allergens;
- supporting inclusion;
- reporting incidents and near misses.

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- providing accurate and up-to-date medical information;
- informing the school of changes to allergies or treatment;
- providing prescribed medication and adrenaline devices in date;
- contributing to IHPs and allergy management arrangements;
- informing the school about relevant reactions or medical advice.

Pupils

Pupils will be encouraged, according to their age, understanding and competence, to:

- understand their allergy and how to stay safe;
- avoid known allergens;
- follow school food-sharing expectations;
- know how and when to seek help;
- take increasing responsibility for their medication where appropriate.

16. Wellbeing, Inclusion and Allergy-Related Bullying

NCJPS recognises that living with an allergy can cause anxiety and may affect a pupil's confidence and participation in school life.

The school will:

- promote an inclusive culture;
- listen to pupils' views and concerns;
- involve pupils and parents/carers in allergy management;
- support pupils who are anxious about food, dining or activities;
- provide appropriate familiarisation for new pupils where helpful;
- consider the use of an Allergy Champion or named point of contact where appropriate.

Allergy-related teasing, harassment, intimidation or bullying will not be tolerated and will be dealt with under the school's Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies.

17. Safeguarding

Allergy safety is part of the school's wider safeguarding responsibilities.

Where there are concerns that a pupil is being placed at significant risk because essential allergy information or medication is repeatedly not provided, or because of deliberate or persistent exposure to allergens, the school will consider whether safeguarding procedures need to be followed.

Any safeguarding concern will be managed in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

18. Incidents and Near Misses

All allergic reactions, accidental exposures and near misses will be recorded on **CPOMS** as soon as practicable.

Examples of near misses include:

- accidental exposure without a reaction;
- incorrect or missing food labelling;
- medication being unavailable;
- a failure in an agreed control measure.

Following an incident or significant near miss, NCJPS will:

- establish what happened;
- review the effectiveness of existing control measures;
- identify lessons learned;
- communicate appropriately with parents/carers;
- update the pupil's IHP or risk assessment where necessary;
- take further action to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.

Incidents will be reviewed in a supportive, learning-focused and no-blame manner while still addressing any failures in practice.

Where required, incidents involving food supplied by the school as a food business will be reported to the appropriate external authority.

19. Unacceptable Practice

NCJPS staff must not:

- prevent a pupil from accessing prescribed medication in accordance with their IHP;
- assume that pupils with the same allergy require identical support;
- assume that older pupils no longer need support;
- ignore the views of pupils or parents/carers;
- disregard medical advice;
- assume that a pupil does not have an allergy simply because diagnosis is still being investigated;
- send a pupil who is unwell to another location without suitable supervision;
- require parents/carers to attend school to administer medication where this is the school's responsibility;
- unnecessarily prevent or restrict a pupil from participating in school activities, trips or events because of their allergy;
- penalise a pupil because of allergy-related medical appointments or absence.

Where unacceptable practice occurs, the school will address this through the appropriate school procedures.

20. Information Sharing and Confidentiality

Allergy information is health information and will be handled sensitively and securely.

NCJPS will share relevant information with those who need it to keep pupils safe. This may include:

- teaching staff;
- support staff;
- supply and cover staff;
- catering staff;
- lunchtime staff;
- wraparound staff;
- coaches and peripatetic staff;
- relevant trip leaders and visiting providers.

Information will be shared on a proportionate, need-to-know basis while maintaining the pupil's dignity and confidentiality.

The school recognises that data protection requirements do not prevent appropriate sharing of health information where this is necessary to protect a pupil's health and safety.

21. Communication, Publication and Monitoring

This policy will be:

- published on the school website;
- available to parents/carers and staff;
- communicated to relevant staff as part of induction and annual training;
- brought to the attention of pupils and parents/carers at appropriate points during the school year;
- shared with relevant external providers, coaches, volunteers and visiting staff.

Key allergy safety messages will be reinforced ahead of:

- educational visits;
- festivals and celebrations;
- residential activities;
- end-of-term events;
- activities involving food.

The Allergy Lead will monitor the implementation of this policy and review incidents, near misses, training and risk-management arrangements.

The policy will be reviewed **annually**, or sooner if there are changes to legislation, statutory guidance, medical advice or school circumstances.

22. Further Information

NCJPS will have regard to relevant guidance and information from:

- Department for Education – Allergy Safety in Schools;
- Department for Education – Allergy Guidance for Schools;
- Anaphylaxis UK;
- Allergy UK;
- NHS;
- relevant local authority guidance;
- relevant healthcare professionals.
